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Manasi Deshpande is an assistant professor of economics at the University of Chicago Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics. She is a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Her research interests include the optimal design of social safety net programs, their interaction with labor markets, and their effects on consumption, health, and well-being. She has received the Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship, the NSF CAREER award, and the William T. Grant Scholarship. Her dissertation on the long-term effects of disability programs received the 2015 APPAM Dissertation Award, the 2015 Upjohn Institute Dissertation Award, and the 2016 NASI John Heinz Dissertation Award.

Manasi holds a PhD in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Previously, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research and the Becker-Friedman Institute.